

Application / Control Number: 09 / 287,478
Amendment A (Revised)

Page 4

~~begin changed section~~

7. (Amended) The computer network of Claim 6 and further comprising a database of Unique IDs, simulation counts and timestamps, indexed by at least said Unique ID and stored in at least one Server and further comprising the following additional steps before processing of merged data:

- a) Lookup the Unique Identifier in the database and retrieve the associated simulation count and timestamp. If no record found, create a new database record associated with the Unique Identifier and having the simulation count initialized to zero (0) and the timestamp initialized to the current time.
- b) If said timestamp has become older than a certain threshold, delete said simulation record and return to step a)
- c) Using said Identifier, simulation count and timestamp, determine if the number of simulations per unit time has exceeded some threshold.
- d) Simulate only if said threshold has not been exceeded.
- e) Increment the number of simulations performed and save updated record of at least Unique Identifier, updated simulation count and timestamp in database.

~~end changed section~~